

Europe External Programme with Africa

SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA & NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

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Europe External Programme with Africa is a Belgium-based Centre of Expertise with in-depth knowledge, publications, and networks, specialised in issues of peacebuilding, refugee protection, and resilience in the Horn of Africa. EEPA has published extensively on issues related to the movement and/or human trafficking of refugees in the Horn of Africa and on the Central Mediterranean Route. It cooperates with a wide network of universities, research organisations, civil society, and experts from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, and across Africa. The Situation Reports can be found [here](#). To receive the situation report in your e-mail, [click here](#). You can unsubscribe at any moment through the link at the bottom of each e-mail.

Situation in Sudan (per 12 February)

- There have been multiple recorded drone strikes by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in recent days. One on 7 February near Rahad in North Kordofan killed 24 people including 8 children. Another on 11 February killed 2 people and injured 13 in a boarding school.
- Fighting between the RSF and Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) has driven large-scale civilian displacement across North and South Kordofan, according to the latest ACAPS briefing.
- In an EU parliament debate on Sudan, EU Commissioner Hadja Lahbib stated that millions of people are in need of support and face severe access constraints. She emphasized that the EU is responding through funding, humanitarian aid, and diplomatic pressure.
- Leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) Minawi called upon French representatives to visit Sudan and witness the ongoing humanitarian crisis in an effort to raise awareness among French politicians, in a meeting of the French Parliament on 10 February.
- Chairman of the Sudanese Sovereignty Council al-Burhan dissolved the high committee tasked with restoring services to Khartoum to facilitate the return of residents and transferred its mandate to the Prime Minister's office.
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has launched emergency activities in El Obeid in response to the continuous attacks on humanitarian organisations and the precarious living conditions in that region.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 12 February)

- The Amhara Regional State Peace and Security Bureau, on 10 February, accused Eritrea and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) of involvement in the fighting in the Amhara region via leadership and logistical support to various armed groups.
- Eritrea denied the presence of Eritrean troops in Ethiopia and stated it did not want to participate in "meaningless acrimony", following Ethiopia's accusation of Eritrean troop presence and support to armed groups in Ethiopia this weekend.
- Ethiopia and France signed a bilateral debt restructuring agreement, together with a new financing package consisting of €81.5 million. Most will go to Ethiopia's Homegrown Economic Reform, while €1.5 million will constitute a technical assistance grant.
- The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, urges Ethiopia and Eritrea to de-escalate tensions in Tigray. He emphasises the need for political dialogue and confidence-building measures.

International and regional situation (per 12 February)

- Reports indicate that Ethiopia is hosting, training, and financing a secret RSF training camp in the Benishangul-Gumuz region. Sources told Reuters it was financed by the United Arab Emirates (UAE), although the agency could not verify it.
- The US Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman said that if the RSF training camps are confirmed, it "would be escalatory and further reason to designate the RSF as a Foreign Terrorist Organization"
- An EU Commission spokesperson stated that it raised 'concerns' with the UAE over its role in Sudan.

- UN Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric commented on the intensification of airstrikes on civilians in Sudan, saying it was "deeply alarmed" by the escalation.
- The Kenyan government says it will talk to Russia over reports that its citizens are being illegally recruited to fight in the Ukraine war. Kenya believes at least 200 nationals are fighting for Russia.
- UN Peacekeeping chief Pierre Lacroix stated in a UN Security Council meeting on South Sudan on Tuesday that the situation in South Sudan has worsened in the last weeks, due to intensified fighting, attacks on humanitarian personnel and cost-cutting measures of the UNMISS.
- Following this briefing, France's Deputy political coordinator to the UN Charlotte Saudin issued a statement to the Security Council emphasising the critical role of the UNMISS to safeguard the country's stability. She also calls upon South Sudanese authorities to cooperate with the mission.
- IGAD has organised a two day session with policy makers, legislators, and academia to strengthen advocacy and action on forced displacement.

Refugee and Migration Situation (per 12 February)

- The European Parliament adopted new asylum rules procedures allowing the European Commission and member states to designate countries as safe and speed up the returns process. This move was passed with a majority comprised of right and far right parties, and it has been heavily criticised.
- At least 53 refugees and migrants, including two infants, died or went missing after a rubber boat carrying about 55 people capsized off the coast of Libya on 5 February, with only two women rescued.
- The European Parliament, on Tuesday, held a debate about Spain's large-scale regularisation policy and its impact on the Schengen Area and EU migration policy.
- The Council of Europe has published a Compendium of Promising Practices on Access to Nationality for Stateless Children, to showcase effective national legal and administrative measures to prevent child statelessness, and promote child-friendly procedures, birth registration and access to justice.
- The IOM published its latest report on Libya's migration trends for October–December 2025, showing overall migrant arrivals declining compared with earlier quarters, with over 5,400 individuals recorded at official border points during the period.

Links of interest

[News: Ethiopia, France sign bilateral debt restructuring deal, €81.5 million financing agreement](#)

[News: Amhara security bureau alleges TPLF, Eritrea involvement in ongoing conflicts](#)

[Ethiopia Orders Eritrea To Withdraw Troops From Its Territory](#)

[Eritrea accuses Ethiopia of fabricating report its troops had crossed the border](#)

[UN rights chief urges Ethiopia and Eritrea to de-escalate tensions](#)

[Verbatim report of proceedings](#)

[ACAPS Briefing Note: Sudan - Conflict-induced displacement in North and South Kordofan \(11 February 2026\)](#)

[Drone strike kills 2 at religious school in Sudan's North Kordofan](#)

[MSF launches an emergency response in southern Sudan](#)

[RSF drone attack kills 24 displaced civilians fleeing war in Sudan](#)

[Minawi invites French lawmakers to visit Sudan to witness war crimes](#)

[Sudan's Burhan dissolves Khartoum return committee](#)

[Ethiopia builds secret camp to train Sudan RSF fighters, sources say](#)

[U.S. Senate Foreign Relations chair warns of consequences after report of Ethiopia training RSF](#)

[EU says 'concerns' raised with UAE over its role in Sudan war](#)

[Noon briefing of 11 February 2026](#)

[Violence surges in South Sudan leaving civilians at risk and peacekeepers stretched thin](#)

[The UNMISS plays a critical role in safeguarding the country's stability](#)

[Kenya wants to confront Russian use of Kenyans in Ukraine](#)

[Asylum: new rules for safe third countries and EU safe countries of origin list](#)

[Verbatim report of proceedings](#)

[Publication of the Compendium of Promising Practices on Access to Nationality for Stateless Children Drowning of 53 migrants off Libya's coast, inseparable from Europe's restrictive migration policies, closure of safe pathways](#)

[Migration Trends at Libya's Borders](#)

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